



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

David W. WRIGHT et al. Group Art Unit: 1744

Application No.: 10/816,252 Examiner: N. BOWERS

Filed: April 2, 2004 Docket No.: 115624

For: DEVICE FOR SEPARATING GAS FROM A LIQUID PATH

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the September 7, 2007 Restriction Requirement, the prior for reply being extended by the attached Petition for Extension of Time, Applicants provisionally elect Group I, claims 1-30 and 56-64, with traverse.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one Group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner <u>must</u> examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Thus, withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

William P. Berridge Registration No. 30,024

Christopher J. Wheeler Registration No. 60,738

WPB:CJW/clf

Attachment:

Petition for Extension of Time

Date: March 7, 2008

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